

**Notice of Allowability****Application No.**

10/723,787

**Applicant(s)**

BRANSON ET AL.

**Examiner**

Jinhee J. Lee

**Art Unit**

2175

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/3/08.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5-8,10,11,17-19 and 44.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 20080815.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**  
**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gero McClellan on 8/15/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In the Claims:**

1. Cancel claim 45
2. Amend claim 1 as below:

Claim 1, (Currently Amended) A method of displaying hover assistance on a display screen, comprising:

moving a pointer element to a position over a user interface element shown on the display screen in response to user manipulation of a pointing device;

while the pointer element is positioned over the user interface element, invoking a first hover element for display on the display screen;

wherein the first hover element comprises a first plurality of indications of respective actions to be performed by a user to cause execution of an associated operation, each of the first plurality of

**Deleted:** invoking a second hover element for display on the display screen after invoking the first hover element, wherein invoking the second hover element is responsive to the pointer element continuing to be positioned over the user interface element for a first predetermined period of time; and ¶

**Deleted:** each of

**Deleted:** and the second hover element

**Deleted:** respective

indications being user-selectable from the first hover element by a mouse pointer;

wherein

1) upon selection of any of the indications of the first plurality of indications from the first hover element prior to the expiration of a first predetermined period of time, processing branches to execute the associated operation;

**Deleted:** the

**Deleted:** causes execution of the associated operation in lieu of invoking the second hover element, in which case the second hover element is not invoked after the expiration of the first predetermined period of time and

**Deleted:** instead

2) upon no selection of any of the indications of the plurality of indications from the first hover element, invoking a second hover element for display on the display screen after invoking the first hover element, wherein invoking the second hover element is responsive to the pointer element continuing to be positioned over the user interface element for the first predetermined period of time; and

wherein the second hover element comprises a second plurality of indications of respective actions to be performed by a user to cause execution of associated operation, each of the second plurality of indications being user-selectable from the second hover element by a mouse pointer;

wherein at least the second hover element includes a user-selectable copy element which, when selected, causes the second hover element to be copied to a clipboard;

wherein the first and second hover element provide assistance  
regarding the user interface element.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-11, 17-19 and 44 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-11, 17-19 and 44, prior arts do not teach or suggest the combination of method of displaying hover assistance on a display screen wherein the first and second hover element and includes a first and a second plurality of indications of respective actions to be performed by a user to cause execution of an associated operation, each of the first plurality of indications being user-selectable from the first hover element by a mouse pointer; wherein 1) upon selection of any of the indications of the first plurality of indications from the first hover element prior to the expiration of a first predetermined period of time, processing branches to execute the associated operation; 2) upon no selection of any of the indications of the plurality of indications from the first hover element, invoking a second hover element for display on the display screen after invoking the first hover element, wherein invoking the second hover element is responsive to the pointer element continuing to be positioned over the user interface element for the first predetermined period of time; and wherein at least the second hover element includes a user-selectable copy element which, when selected, causes the second hover element to be copied to a clipboard; wherein the first and second hover element provide assistance regarding the user interface element

. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments and amendments filed June 3, 2008, along with the examiner's amendment above have been fully considered and finds the argument along with the amendments to the claim persuasive.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M- F at 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Bashore can be reached on 571-272-2100 ext. 75. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jinhee J Lee/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2175

jjl